

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully traverse and request reconsideration.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the notice that claims 1-5 and 10-15 are allowed over the art and that claims 8 and 9 remain rejected. Applicants have amended claims 8 and 9 and believe that the claims are in condition for allowance.

Claims 8-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Schmitz. The office action takes the position that claim 8 could be interpreted to read that “The claimed retransmitted authentication code can broadly be interpreted as the same authorization code being transmitted to different units.” (Page 3). Claim 8 has been amended to note that the first unit receives the retransmitted authentication code automatically from an intermediate destination unit such that it is transparent to a user (see for example, Specification page 17, lines 9-27 and elsewhere) such that the intermediate unit may automatically retransmit the authentication code to the first unit so that the user need not remember or enter the authentication code. This can provide for a more accurate (no possibility of a user mis-entering an authentication code) and a faster operation. Other advantages will be recognized by those of ordinary skill in the art.

Schmitz describes a completely different approach and does not teach the claimed subject matter. In Schmitz, the user reads a transaction authorization number TAN from a receiver and “enters the transaction authorization number TAN” into the data input apparatus. Since the Schmitz reference does not teach the claimed subject matter, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. The Examiner is invited to contact the below-listed attorney if the Examiner believes that a telephone conference will advance the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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